under Government control. The idea was to form a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Accordingly, the Indian Institute of Maritime Studies, Mumbai has been registered as a Society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 6th June, 2002.

Project for development of T.S. Canal

2023. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project submitted by the State Government of Kerala for developing the T.S. Canal from Kollam to Kovalam under National Waterway-III has been pending for sanction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider implementation of the project to develop the T.S. Canal; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI S.U. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A proposal at a cost of Rs. 36.40 crores for development of T.S. Canal from Kovalam to Kollam was received from the State Government of Kerala for approval under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The same was examined and State Government of Kerala was requested to furnish certain clarifications, which are still awaited.

Delay in clearance at ports

2024. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice carrying ships have to wait for clearance from port authorities at ports for 15 to 16 days resulting in demurrage of thousands of dollars; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the situation at ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI S.U. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.